

REMARKS

Claims 4 to 9 are pending in the present application.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of this response.

Claims 4 to 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for their recitation of "unequivocal." Specifically, as explained in the Specification at page 2, lines 10-14, a user may produce an encryption key pair, mark the public part of this pair using the previously relinquished secret signature key, and transmits the result to the Trust Center. At the Trust Center, using a check with the air of the certified public part of the signature key pair of the user, the result is assigned as belonging – unequivocally and reliable – to the user. The Examiner's recitation of "unequivocal" as "certain" is correct, and supported by the Specification. In the present claims, unequivocal is seen as a positive recitation as it is used in conjunction with "reliable" in the Specification. Further, in the first page of the Specification, the need for such reliable assignment is expressed and described. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the recitation of "unequivocal" is a definite recitation in the claims; and, respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 4 to 9.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 4 and 7, and thus their dependent claims, would be allowable if rewritten or if support for the term "unequivocal" is shown within the specification without changing the scope of the present invention to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that such a showing now has been made, and submit that the claims now are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of all of the above, it is believed that all claims 4 to 9 are allowable. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that the present application issue as early as possible.

If it would further allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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